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EXAMINER
SALCE, JASON P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2623	

DATE MAILED: 11/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/736,392	Applicant(s) AUGENBRAUN ET AL.	
	Examiner Jason P. Salce	Art Unit 2623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 September 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 16-23,34 and 35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 16-23 and 34-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 9/21/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The claim amendments still read on the prior art of record (see rejection below).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 16-23 and 34-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Gordon et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,208,335).

Referring to claim 16, Gordon discloses receiving, by a cable headend, a navigation command initiated from a remote control associated with a set top box (see Column 2, Lines 6-16 and Column 6, Lines 50-54), the navigation command including a requested direction (see Column 6, Lines 42-45 for providing a requested direction) and being associated with a selected object on a video image (see Column 6, Lines 39-41 and Figure 3), the requested direction being in a direction from the selected object toward a second object adjacent to the selected object (see Figure 3 for the user having

the object to navigate from the New Releases object to the Sweet Deals object), the video image having a plurality of frames corresponding to HTML frames in at least one web page (see Column 8, Lines 45-51 and defining a region at Column 8, Lines 54-57 (further note arguments above)), the frames being independently controllable sections in the web page (see Column 6, Lines 39-50 for navigating through a reference region, where the regions are further defined at Column 7, Lines 54-57 and the sample web page code described at Column 9, Line 30 through Column 12, Line 17), the video image being presented on a display device associated with the set top box (see set top box 136 and display device 140 in Figure 1 and an example video image in Figure 3), the selected object being within a first frame on the video image (see the video image in Figure 3 for containing four separate quadrants (frames) that each contains two objects that are selectable and further note Column 10, Lines 18-29, which defines the wheel frame in Figure 19, which provides multiple selectable objects, which are used to search video programs by alphabetical order).

Gordon also discloses determining, by the cable headend, whether the selected object is located at an edge of the first frame in the requested direction (see Column 6, Lines 57-66 for requests to the video session manager including menu navigation commands and Column 6, Lines 39-50 for navigating through the various objects on the video image of Figure 3, therefore the video session manager determines that an edge of a first frame is in the requested direction). Further note Column 11, Line 1 through Column 12, Line 17 and Figure 19, which defines every button (where certain buttons are defined in one region as discussed above) and the different directions that must be

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taken when navigation through each button, where certain directions would guide the viewer from one frame to another.

Gordon also discloses determining whether the selected object is located at an edge of a server-side image map object, the server-side image map comprising a plurality of navigable objects within a larger navigable object (see Figure 3 for the menu with four quadrants/frames and multiple server-side image map objects (the "To Find a Specific Movie" and "OnSet" options)).

Gordon also discloses that when the selected object is located at an edge of a server-side image map object in the requested direction, receiving at least one additional navigation command in the requested direction navigate out of the server-side image map object (see again Figure 3 for selection either the 4 quadrant menu or the options outside of the 4 quadrant menu).

Gordon also discloses that when the selected object is located at an edge of the first frame in the requested direction, providing navigation on the display device (see Column 6, Lines 39-50), in the requested direction from the selected object in the first frame to a same-frame object that is also in the first frame to the second object, the second object comprising a same-frame object that is also in the first frame (note that in Figure 3 if Sweet Deals is currently selected and the viewer moves to New Releases, then this is within a quadrant and therefore the same-frame object in the first frame and further note above that in Figure 19 that the wheel frame allows the user to navigate from "A-E" to "F-J", therefore a same-frame object can be selected within the single wheel frame).

Gordon also discloses providing navigation on the display device (see Column 6, Lines 39-50), the navigation being in the requested direction from the selected object in the first frame to a different-frame object in a second frame (see Figure 3 for moving from Movie Types to New Releases), when the selected object is located at an edge of the first frame in the requested direction (see Figure 3 for Movies A-Z being at the edge of New Releases), the second frame being in the requested direction from the first frame (see Figure 3 for the first frame being in the selected direction from Movies Types to New Releases). The examiner notes that New Releases and Sweet Deals constitutes a first frame and Movie Types and Movies A-Z constitute a second frame.

Referring to claim 17, Gordon discloses determining that the selected object is located at the edge of the first frame is performed by a directional guide mapping application in the cable headend (see information server 108 and video session manager 122 in Figure 1 and Column 5, Lines 37-41 and the rejection of claim 16 for presenting the results of the navigational functionality and Column 2, Lines 6-11 for the navigation being controlled by "software" at the headend (video session manager 122 and information server 108 and CATV source 128 in Figure 1)).

Referring to claim 18, Gordon discloses the directional guide mapping application is for generating direction guide maps (see Column 8, Lines 39-53 the navigator asset builder software program building the direction guide maps) and for comparing the requested direction to an edge of frame indication associated with the selected object in

the directional guide maps (see again Column 6, Lines 39-54 and the rejection of claim 16 for the presenting the results of the navigational functionality).

Referring to claim 19, Gordon discloses that the selected object is located at the edge of the first frame, if the requested direction matches the edge of frame indication (see Column 6, Lines 39-54 for navigating through different frames and further note the arguments above and the rejection of claim 16 for also navigating within a first frame).

Referring to claim 20, Gordon discloses that the second frame is determined by a browser processing controller in the cable headend by searching the directional guide maps to locate a particular directional guide map that is adjacent to the first frame in the request direction from the selected object (see Column 6, Lines 39-66 and video session manager 122 and information server 108 in Figure 1 and Column 8, Lines 32-57 for searching the directional guide maps for the proper direction to guide the viewer, where the guide maps are described in Column 11, Line 1 through Column 12, Line 17). Again, note Column 2, Lines 6-17 for the video session manager 122 containing the software to navigate the set top terminal through multiple menus.

Referring to claim 21, Gordon discloses that the browser processing controller determines the particular directional guide map based on a comparison of geometries of the first frame and the second frame (see Figure 3 for the frames being drawn adjacent to one another, therefore the browser references a directional guide map that instructs

the browser to move from frames adjacent to one another when the viewer selects movement from a first frame to a second frame). Also note Column 11, Line 1 through Column 12, Line 17, which defines the directional guide maps, which describe the buttons and which same-frame objects or additional frames that can be access to move from frames adjacent to one another. Further note Column 8, Lines 32-44 for the builder software program using a particular navigator descriptor file (or files) to generate the information used to navigate through the video image that corresponds to HTML frames in at least one web page.

Referring to claim 22, Gordon discloses that the directional guide maps are linked in an order corresponding to each web page (see Figures 3 and 4 for two different web pages that are linked to there corresponding directional guide maps (shown in Column 11, Line 1 through Column 12, Line 17) or else when a user navigates through the web page, the viewer will not be directed to the proper areas of the web page). Further note that each web page can be linked to other web pages (see Column 13, Line 42 through Column 14, Line 5 and Figure 5 for each applet being linked to other applets, which provides the MPEG video screen, which again, contain a plurality of frames that **correspond to** HTML frames in at least one web page (see rebuttal to Applicant's arguments above).

Referring to claim 23, Gordon discloses that the different frame object is the object in the second frame that is closet to the selected object in the first frame (see

Figure 3 for the Movie Types object in the first frame being adjacent to the Movies A-Z object in the second frame). Again note Column 11, Line 1 through Column 12, Line 17 for the buttons providing the proper navigation from one object to another in the same frame or a different frame.

Referring to claims 34-35, see the rejection of claims 16 and 23, respectively.

Conclusion

3. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason P. Salce whose telephone number is (571) 272-7301. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9am-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (571) 272-7353. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jason P Salce
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2623

November 16, 2006

JASON SALCE
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Salce", written in a cursive style.